Swyddfa'r Prif Weinidog a Swyddfa'r Cabinet

Office of the First Minister and Cabinet Office



Our ref: ATISN 10441 Date: 13 June 2016

Dear,

Request for Information – ATISN reference 10441

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 16 May 2016. You asked for the following information

- How much the Government and Laws in Wales Bill cost to create and when work started on it (the Welsh Government's alternative to the draft Wales Bill)
- The amount of correspondence over the Government and Laws in Wales Bill since it was received by the Wales Office from MP Alun Cairns.
- If FOI requests of a similar nature have already been asked could you please include your responses to those requests

Regarding the cost of producing the Government and Laws in Wales Bill, it is not possible to provide an estimate of time spent on discrete work on the Bill and we do not hold this information. I can inform you that no official was removed from work on other projects to conduct work on the Bill. The developmental work was managed by officials in the Constitutional Affairs branch, lawyers and legislative counsel as part of their normal responsibilities.

On 10th December 2015, following completion of the Welsh Government's input into the prelegislative scrutiny process on the draft Wales Bill - and a perceived lack of progress in discussions with UK Government officials on obtaining amendments to that Bill - officials received Ministerial direction to work on an alternative Bill.

No correspondence has been received on the Government and Laws in Wales Bill from Mr Alun Cairns MP in his capacity as either Secretary of State for Wales or a Welsh Member of Parliament.

We have not received any other FOI requests of a similar nature.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:



Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

or

Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely